


Andrew P. Chick MPhil  
Ecological Consultant

The Old Farmhouse,  
Washdyke Lane, Fulbeck,  
Grantham, Lincs NG32 3LB



**Miss Alice Sumner**

**Ramleh,  
Spanby  
Sleaford  
NG340BB**

7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Application number: 21/0596/FUL - Proposed change of use from garden store to dwelling**

**Location: Former Parish Church, Spanby Lane, Spanby, Sleaford, Lincolnshire**

North Kesteven District Council granted planning permission for development of the above site under reference 21/0596/FUL in April 2022. There is a single ecological condition of the planning permission (No. 6) which require the completion.

6. Prior to the commencement of any building or renovation works during the months of March to August inclusive a suitably experienced ecologist shall undertake a search for active bird nests. Where active bird nests are found, the relevant works shall proceed under watching brief by the ecologist. A report to confirm compliance with these measures and any additional mitigation subsequently advised by the ecologist shall be submitted to the district planning authority within 1 month of the completion of the relevant works.  
Reason: In the interests of the conservation of protected species in accordance with Policy LP21 of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Adopted 2017).

Additional mitigation subsequently advised by the ecologist included the requirement of a European protected species (EPS) licence for bats to be submitted to Natural England before the start of works for the purpose of;

Imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment under section 55(2)(e).

**Site visits**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 an inspection of the survey building was undertaken. The scaffold had been erected and there was access to all elevations. During the site visit the proposed works was discussed with the contractors and a procedure to follow if bats were discovered during works was agreed.

During the site visit on the 22nd the building was inspected for active bird nests, none were found.

#### European protected species (EPS) - Bats

Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) Natural England has granted a licence for the disturbance of bats on site with the following reference number; Licence number: 2022-60494-EPS-MIT. A copy of the licence is attached as Appendix 1.

The terms of the licence require;

A watching brief to supervise any works that could impact upon bats, i.e. checking areas for bats prior to exposing or filling potential gaps and/or cavities.

All contractors working on the site to be briefed on the legal protection afforded to bats and their places of shelter and on how to proceed if a bat is discovered during the work.

If, at any stage a significant number of bats are found, then all work is to stop and Natural England will be consulted for further advice.

In order to replace the lost roosts within the building, the following mitigation is required;

It is proposed that 2F Schwegler Bat Boxes are installed on large trees in the location of the site entrance to provide roosting opportunities during work related disturbance.

The access point used by the bats at eaves level and associated with the clock tower to be reinstated. Bitumen type F1 felt to be used at the roof apex.

The contractor will work with the bat ecologist to ensure that the repair works to the bell-tower will allow future use by bats.

The 2F Schwegler Bat Boxes were installed on the mature elm trees at the site entrance during April 2022.

Two lead bat access points were installed on the front and rear elevation. The following representative images show the construction and location;



Photograph 1: Representative image showing the installation of bat access points.



Photograph 2: Representative image showing the location of bat access points (front elevation).

In April 2022 the brickwork associated with the former bell tower was removed under supervision, no bats were found. The brickwork was repaired and a bat roost feature with access point was incorporated within the new brickwork. See images below;



Photograph 3: Representative image showing the bat feature being constructed within the bell tower (April 2022).



Photograph 4: Representative image showing the completed bat feature with access point indicated by red arrow (April 2022).

I hope this provides all of the information that you require to discharge Condition 6 with reference to Planning Application 21/0596/FUL and information regarding progress of NE EPSL 2022-60494-EPS-MIT, however if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me. It would be appreciated if you could respond to this letter and confirm you are happy with the proposal in writing,

Yours Sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Andrew P. Chick.

Andrew P. Chick



# Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

## LICENCE – Mitigation



### This licence authorises acts that would otherwise be offences under the above legislation

Any request for information in this licence will be considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as appropriate.

Wildlife Licensing Service  
Natural England  
Horizon House  
Deanery Road  
Bristol  
BS1 5AH

Licence number:

2022-60494-EPS-MIT

Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) Natural England has granted this licence for Bat for the purpose of:

### Imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment under section 55(2)(e)

Name (in full)

Ms Alice Sumner

Address

St Nicholas,  
Spanby Lane  
Spanby  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 0BB

Project description:

'Licensable activities associated with development works consented under Permitted Development.

Between the dates of:

11th April 2022

and

30 April 2032

inclusive, subject to the conditions specified.

At locations:

Site/Location Name	County	OS Grid Reference
St Nicholas	Lincolnshire	TF0954938168

For the following species

Species Common Name (Taxonomic Name)	Activity	Method
<b>Brown long-eared bat (Plecotus auritus)</b>	Capture/take Disturb Transport Damage breeding site	By hand Temporary exclusion Destructive search by soft demolition
<b>Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)</b>	Capture/take Disturb Transport Damage resting place	By hand Temporary exclusion Destructive search by soft demolition

For the following licensable activities and maximum numbers:

Licensable Activity	Permitted Species Common Name	Maximum Number
Capture	<b>Brown long-eared bat (Plecotus auritus)</b>	5
	<b>Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)</b>	4
Transport	<b>Brown long-eared bat (Plecotus auritus)</b>	5
	<b>Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)</b>	4
Disturb	<b>Brown long-eared bat (Plecotus auritus)</b>	Not Specified
	<b>Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)</b>	Not Specified
Damage breeding site	<b>Brown long-eared bat (Plecotus auritus)</b>	See Additional Conditions for details
Damage resting place	<b>Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)</b>	See Additional Conditions for details

## Please Note

The maximum number(s) stated in the above table refers to the maximum number of individuals of the stated species that can be captured or transported under the terms of this licence and the maximum number/s of resting places or breeding sites that can be damaged or destroyed under this licence (if applicable). Maximum numbers cannot be specified and do not apply to disturbance activities. Where applicable, please also refer to the special conditions outlined in your licence Annex for further details on how this/these maximum number(s) applies/apply to the activities permitted under your licence.

**This licence is granted subject to the licensee, including servants, and named agents, adhering to the conditions and notes specified below and to the activities agreed in the Method Statement, or Annex and Work Schedule, between the licensee and Natural England. The Method Statement, or Annex, for the mitigation scheme is appended to this licence. The following person is authorised to act on behalf of the licensee:**

<b>Consultant Name:</b>	Mr Andrew Chick
<b>Address:</b>	The Old Farmhouse, Washdyke Lane Fulbeck, Grantham
<b>County:</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Postcode:</b>	NG32 3LB

Name:  Date:

*(for Natural England on behalf of the Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)*

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Warnings, licence conditions and notes

## Important Advice

**This licence authorises acts that would otherwise be offences under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Any departure from the conditions relating to this licence may be an offence under that legislation;**

**This licence conveys no authority for actions prohibited by any other legislation;**

**This licence can be modified or revoked at any time by Natural England, but this will not be done unless there are good reasons for doing so. The licence is likely to be revoked immediately if it is discovered that false information had been provided which resulted in the issue of the licence.**

**Bodies corporate and their directors/secretaries are liable for offences under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).**

## Licence conditions

1. The licensee is responsible for ensuring that operations comply with all terms and conditions of the licence.
2. While engaged in the activities to which this licence applies the licensee shall make a copy of the licence (including any Annex and Work Schedule if applicable) available for inspection on each site where the activities are taking place and shall produce it on demand to any constable or an officer of Natural England.
3. No agent of the licensee shall carry out any of the activities to which this licence (including any Annex and Work Schedule if applicable) applies unless authorised in writing by the licensee, appointing them the licensee's agent. The agent shall make a copy of the authorisation available for and shall produce it on demand to any constable or officer of Natural England.
4. The licensee must submit a written report of actions taken under the licence (including any Annex and Work Schedule if applicable), even if no action is taken, and send it to the Natural England officer at the address shown at the top of the report form, to arrive not later than 14 days (two weeks) after the expiry of the licence. Failure to make reports may result in the licence being revoked and/or the refusal to grant subsequent licences. Please note some licences may have additional reporting requirements specified in an attached Annex.
5. It is a condition of the licence (including any Annex and Work Schedule if applicable) that any post development monitoring data (e.g. survey data and habitat assessment) including nil returns are submitted to Natural England to arrive no later than 14 days (two weeks) after the expiry of the licence or as specified in any Annex. Post development survey data (except nil returns) must also be sent to the relevant Local Biological Records centre within this time period.
6. A person authorised by the licensee shall provide him/her with such information as is within his/ her knowledge and is necessary for the report, which the licensee is required to make to Natural England.
7. The licensee shall permit an officer of Natural England, accompanied by such persons as he/ she considers necessary for the purpose, on production of his/her identification on demand, reasonable access to the site for monitoring purposes and to be present during any operations carried out under the authority of this licence for the purpose of ascertaining whether the conditions of this licence are being, or have been, complied with. The licensee shall give all reasonable assistance to an officer of Natural England and any persons accompanying him/her.
8. The licensee, including servants and named agents, must adhere to the activities; the licensable methods; the numbers per species (if relevant) and the timescales agreed between the Licensee and Natural England in the Method Statement or, if applicable, in the Annex and Work Schedule attached to the licence.
9. All activities authorised by this licence, and all equipment used in connection herewith shall be carried out, constructed and maintained (as the case may be) so as to avoid cruelty, unnecessary injury or distress to any species covered by this licence.
10. Methods used in connection with the execution of this licence must comply with the relevant published mitigation guidelines, unless otherwise agreed with Natural England.
11. Good practice and reasonable avoidance measures must be followed at all times.
12. All records are to be made available for inspection at any reasonable time by Natural England.



13. The licensee and named ecologist are responsible for all activities of the persons they have appointed in connection with this licence.
14. It is a condition of this licence that you must have obtained prior consent from all landowners and/or occupiers before commencing any activities that are authorised by this licence.
15. **Special conditions apply to this mitigation licence that are in addition to the standard conditions listed above. These are detailed within the attached Annex and all persons acting under this licence must ensure that operations comply with all these terms and conditions (including any Annex and work schedule if applicable)**

## Notes

- a. Under Regulation 60(1) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), it is an offence to contravene or fail to comply with a licence condition. This includes all persons authorised to act under this licence.
- b. Natural England advises that where any individual is likely to come into contact with a bat in the operation of this licence, they should ensure that they wear suitable clothing and gloves and have been vaccinated against European Bat Lyssavirus (EBL).
- c. Any person who provided a false statement or information to obtain this licence is guilty of an offence and may be liable to prosecution.
- d. Please read the details of your licence carefully to ensure that you comply with it paying particular attention to the number and species licensed as this may differ to what was requested in your application.
- e. If this licence has been issued as a result of a modification request then the licensed number excludes any animals or plants permitted to be captured/taken/disturbed/transported/etc. under your previous licence and this modified licence replaces your previous licence.
- f. It is the responsibility of the Licensee (and those acting on their behalf in respect of this Licence) to resolve, as far as is reasonably practicable, the potential for conflict between the Licence conditions, any Planning Conditions and/or Permits relevant to the licensable activity under this Licence. In the event that there is a likelihood that the Licensee is unable comply with the terms and Conditions of this Licence as a result of conflict with Planning Conditions and/or Permits, the licensee should notify Natural England in writing as soon as possible and take steps to resolve the conflict and confirm as soon as practicable to Natural England once this has been done
- g. Persons acting under this licence should abide by the advice described in “Coronavirus (COVID-19): *surveying and mitigation works affecting wildlife*” issued by Defra to Natural England, as a minimum precaution to reduce the risk of accidental transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 from humans to wild mammals. “Coronavirus (COVID-19): *surveying and mitigation works affecting wildlife*” is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-surveying-and-mitigation-works-affecting-wildlife> or on request from Natural England ([eps.mitigation@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:eps.mitigation@naturalengland.org.uk)). You should check whether this advice has been updated and if so, should ensure that you act in accordance with the most up to date version. Any products used to clean and disinfect equipment should be safe for use where there could be contact with animals, and used at an effective and safe dilution rate. ‘Safe4’ is considered to be an appropriate disinfectant for this purpose, and is considered effective against the virus at a dilution of 1:50